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25 cents

City Needs Grader

by Mel Woods

The City of ELgin is requesting a one-time only special levy to purchase a rebuilt, Model 12 motor grader from Oregon Institute of Technology at Klamath Falls. This machine will be in the same condition as a new motor grader. The students of OTI are required to do this type of work to meet graduation requirements. The reason we can purchase this machine for so little money, about \$20,000, is the City will be paying only for the parts used. If for some reason OIT does not have the machine ready for us in the time frame planned, the monies will be placed in a separate fund to await a machine.

The grader the City now has was built in the early 1950's. Parts are very expensive due to unavailability for this old of a machine. When we need the grader to plow snow or grade streets, it is often broke down waiting for parts. In the last three years it has cost the City \$6,818.00 for repair parts alone. This figure can

only be expected to go higher due to the wear of the machine and the fact the parts are getting harder to find.

As a council member and with a knowledge of all road working equipment I feel this would be a money saving decision on the part of the taxpayer and would also allow the city to keep the streets in shape, winter and summer.